

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A catalyst for purifying exhaust gas, which reduces ~~removes~~ nitrogen oxides in an exhaust gas containing excessive oxygen under the existence of methanol and/or dimethyl ether, characterized in that said catalyst comprises a proton type β zeolite.

2. (Original) A catalyst for purifying exhaust gas according to claim 1, characterized in that a SiO₂/Al₂O₃ molar ratio of the proton type β zeolite is within 20-70.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of purifying exhaust gas, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said method ~~comprises a step of~~ includes reducing/removing nitrogen oxides in the exhaust gas containing excessive oxygen therein under the existence of methanol and/or dimethyl ether as reducing agent by making the exhaust gas contact with a proton types β zeolite catalyst.

4. (Original) A method of purifying exhaust gas according to claim 3, characterized in that a SiO₂/Al₂O₃ molar ratio of the proton type β zeolite is within 20-70.